

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00275 171750Z

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02  
USIA-06 AGRE-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-07 LAB-04  
NSAE-00 OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 CEA-01  
DOTE-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 /105 W  
-----171904Z 068547 /65

R 171703Z JAN 77

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4573

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 0275

COMMERCE FOR C. WILLIAM JOHNSON; MARAD FOR A. ARMSTRONG,  
P. JOHNSON; AND DOT FOR W. DRISCOLL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD

SUBJ: FIRST WEEK (JAN 10-15) UNCTAD IPG ON MULTIMODAL  
TRANSPORT

1. SUMMARY: AS ANTICIPATED, THE FIRST WEEK OF THE UNCTAD  
IPG PRODUCED NO TANGIBLE RESULTS. MOST OF WEEK DEVOTED TO  
GROUP COORDINATION. G-77 ATTENDANCE RELATIVELY SMALL AND  
INEXPERT, WITH MEXICO SERVING AS COORDINATOR. SOLE WORK-  
ING GROUP MEETING AMONG GROUPS SHOWED G-77 FIRMLY COMMITTED  
TO A CONVENTION MANDATORY FOR ALL INTERMODAL MOVEMENTS, A  
SUBJECT ON WHICH GROUP B IS DEEPLY DIVIDED. INITIAL  
INDICATIONS REVEALED THAT GROUP OF 77 ALSO REMAINS  
COMMITTED TO INCLUSION OF INSURANCE ALLOCATION, CUSTOMS,  
AND OTHER PUBLIC LAW PROVISIONS IN ANY CONVENTION.  
INCREASING NUMBER OF GROUP B DELEGATIONS VOICING DOUBTS  
ABOUT PROSPECTS OF AN ACCEPTABLE PRIVATE LAW CONVENTION  
EMERGING FROM IPG, WITH ONLY CANADIANS, AUSTRALIANS AND  
SCANDANAVIANS VOICING CONTINUING ENTHUSIASM ABOUT PROS-  
PECTS FOR IPG WORK. NEVERTHELESS, FEW GROUP B DELEGATIONS  
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00275 171750Z

YET WILLING TO SUPPORT STRONG B GROUP STATEMENT OF  
RESERVATIONS. EVEN MOST SKEPTICAL DELEGATIONS (UK,  
FRANCE, NETHERLANDS, JAPANESE, FRG) INCLINED FOR THE  
MOMENT TO RIDE THE IPG OUT TO LIMIT THEIR DAMAGE. GROUP  
B DISCUSSION OF LIABILITY AND INSURANCE NOT YET BEGUN.  
END SUMMARY.

2. IPG LEADERS: PROF. SELVIG (NORWAY), CHAIRMAN, IPG; MR. GANTEN (FRG) (10-12) AND MRS. BLOM (SWEDEN) (13-28), COORDINATOR, GROUP B; MR. NAJERA (MEXICO), COORDINATOR, GROUP 77; MR. ZOTOV (USSR), COORDINATOR, GROUP D; MR. TEMERSGEN (ETHIOPIA), CHAIRMAN, WORKING GROUP.

3. ORGANIZATION OF WORK: TOTAL OF TWO PLENARYS, SEVEN GROUP B MEETINGS, AND ONE WORKING GROUP MEETING HELD. FOCUS OF INITIAL WORK IN GROUP B MEETINGS WAS DISCUSSION OF B STATEMENT ON TD/B/AC/15/13--ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. STATEMENT WAS PREPARED BUT NOT DELIVERED AT FIRST SESSION, THIRD IPG (FEB. 1976). CONSENSUS WITHIN GROUP B REACHED WITH TURKISH DEL (WHICH HAS OVER 12 MEMBERS) FORCING A FEW REVISIONS IN STATEMENT. REVISED STATEMENT READ AT JAN 14 PLENARY AT WHICH TIME IATA, BIMCO, AND IRU ALSO READ STATEMENTS ON THE SUBJECT OF A CONVENTION VIS-A-VIS THEIR PARTICULAR INTERESTS. ONCE B HAD COMPLETED DISCUSSION ON STATEMENT (JAN 11) USDEL RAISED THE QUESTION OF GROUP B POSITIONS REGARDING THE NEED FOR A CONVENTION AND THE FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THE IPG. B COORDINATOR (GANTEN) DEFERRED DISCUSSION OF QUESTION AND BLOM ON JAN 13 ASKED USDEL NOT TO RAISE QUESTION UNTIL INITIAL MEETING OF G-77. REMAINDER OF B MEETINGS DEALT WITH COORDINATION ON DRAFT ARTICLES IN CHAPTERS 1 AND 2 OF TD/B/AC/15/13--PREPARATION OF A PRELIMINARY DRAFT OF A CONVENTION ON INTERNATIONAL MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT. DISCUSSION OF DRAFT ARTICLES REVEALED DEEP B GROUP DIVISION ON QUESTION OF MANDATORY LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 GENEVA 00275 171750Z

APPLICATION OF ANY CONVENTION.

4. US, JAPAN, NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM AND FRANCE VOICED STRONG SUPPORT FOR FULLY OPTIONAL CONVENTION. CANADA AND AUSTRALIA VOICED CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR A CONVENTION MANDATORY FOR ALL INTERMODAL MOVEMENTS. FRG "LEANED" TOWARD MANDATORY APPLICATION. UK PROPOSED "MANDATORY AT THE SHIPPER'S OPTION". ISSUE OF OPTIONALITY LIKELY TO BE CENTRAL IN COMING DISCUSSIONS, SINCE MEXICO (G-77) STATED AT JAN 14 MEETING OF WORKING GROUP THAT A MANDATORY CONVENTION WAS NECESSARY, ASKING "WHY ELSE ARE WE WORKING ON A CONVENTION AT ALL."

5. ON DOCUMENTATION, G-77 IN INITIAL WORKING GROUP SESSION, SHOWED LITTLE SYMPATHY FOR FACILITATION OF USE OF AUTOMATED DATA PROCESSING. G-77 INSISTED THAT CONVENTION REQUIRES ISSUANCE OF MULTIMODAL DOCUMENT REGARDLESS OF WISHES OF PARTIES TO TRANSPORTATION CON-

TRACT.

6. CUSTOMS: G-77 HAS CIRCULATED A PAPER CALLING FOR INCLUSION OF CUSTOMS PROVISIONS IN NEW CONVENTION. PAPER CALLS FOR APPLICATION OF CUSTOMS TRANSIT TO MULTI-MODAL MOVEMENTS; INSPECTION OF GOODS ONLY AT POINT OF DESTINATION; USE OF "SINGLE CUSTOMS TRANSIT DOCUMENT"; AND "REVENUE DEPOSIT OR GUARANTEE SYSTEMS." USDEL HAS NO INDICATION THAT GROUP B MEMBERS HAVE SOFTENED OPPOSITION TO INCLUSION OF CUSTOMS PROVISIONS, BUT WILL PUSH FOR STRONG GROUP B POSITION IN OPPOSITION TO ANY SUBSTANTIVE CUSTOMS PROVISIONS.

7. BRIEF ENCOUNTERS WITH G-77 TO DATE (CONTINUOUS G-77 COORDINATING MEETINGS HAVE LIMITED OPPORTUNITIES FOR CORRIDOR CONTACTS) SUGGEST G-77 PERCEIVES STRONG GROUP B DESIRE FOR CONVENTION. ACCORDINGLY, USDEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 GENEVA 00275 171750Z

WILL PRESS FOR STRONG B GROUP STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT B DOES NOT SEE OVERRIDING NEED FOR A CONVENTION AND THAT SUBSTANTIVE PUBLIC LAW PROVISIONS REMAIN WHOLLY UN-ACCEPTABLE.CATTO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TRADE, TRANSPORTATION, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 17-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977GENEVA00275  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770017-0217  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** GENEVA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770146/aaaabokq.tel  
**Line Count:** 143  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 02d6f2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 08-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 3583827  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FIRST WEEK (JAN 10-15) UNCTAD IPG ON MULTIMODAL TRANSPORT  
**TAGS:** ETRD, ETRN, UNCTAD  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/02d6f2d8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009